

English Language
Week 5 Day 1 (31st January 2022)

Sumatran Rhinoceros



The Sumatran Rhinoceros is the smallest rhinoceros, standing about 120–145 centimetres high at the shoulder, with a body length of 250 centimetres and weight of 500–800 kilograms.

The Sumatran rhinoceros is a small, hairy rhinoceros which lives in some Indonesian and Malaysian rain forests. Only three institutions showcase Sumatran rhinos, the Cincinnati Zoo, the Los Angeles Zoo, and the Sumatran Rhino Sanctuary in Borneo.

1) Where can Sumatran rhinoceros be found?

2) What is the size of a Sumatran rhinoceros?

3) Other than the rainforests, where else can they be found?

Like the two African species, it has two horns. The larger is the nasal horn, typically only 15–25 cm, while the posterior horn is much smaller, usually less than 10 cm. The horns are dark grey or black in color. The males have larger horns than the females. The Sumatran rhino lives an estimated 30–45 years in the wild.

Sumatran Rhinoceros is hairy. In the wild, this hair is hard to observe because the rhinos are often covered in mud. In captivity, however, the hair grows out and becomes much shaggier.

Like all rhinos, they have very poor vision. **The Sumatran rhinoceros is fast and agile;** it climbs mountains easily and comfortably crosses steep slopes and riverbanks.

4) Describe their horns.

5) 'The Sumatran rhinoceros is fast and agile.' What does agile mean?

The Sumatran rhino is usually most active when eating, at dawn, and just after dusk. During the day, they wallow in mud baths to cool down and rest. In the rainy season, they move to higher places; in the cooler months, they return to lower areas. When mud holes are unavailable, the rhino will deepen puddles with its feet and horns.

6) When do they eat?

7) Why do you think they wallow in mud?
